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ASHBURTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for 1967



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H. M. DAVIES,
M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
ASSISTANT COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER :
DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :
ASHBURTON U.D.C.
DAWLISH U.D.C.
NEWTON ABBOT R.D.C.
NEWTON ABBOT U.D.C.
TEIGNMOUTH U.D.C. AND
PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

TELEPHONE No. NEWTON ABBOT 3991

6/8 SHERBORNE ROAD,

NEWTON ABBOT.

ASHBURTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT - 1967

To: The Chairman
and Members of the Ashburton Urban District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present my Report for the year ended 31st December, 1967.

During the year the number of live births registered was forty-nine and the number of deaths fifty-one, giving a natural decrease of two. The Registrar General's estimate of the increase of population was two hundred, which would indicate that two hundred and two new residents had moved into the area. The Rateable Value has increased during the year by approximately two thousand pounds and it would seem that the Registrar General's estimate of population must be very near to the actual figure.

The remaining vital statistics do not differ much from either those of the County of Devon or the whole of England and Wales and call for no comment.

Regarding the cause of death, over half the deaths which occurred were due to diseases of the heart and circulation. Eleven of the fifty-one deaths were due to cancer in one form or the other and it is of particular interest that three males and one female died of cancer of the lung. The incidence of this disease continues to increase and despite the well known association between lung cancer and cigarette smoking, it seems that little is being done effectively to discourage the young from taking up this habit. In addition to this, there is almost irrefutable evidence that cigarette smoking has a strong connection with other diseases of the respiratory system and also with coronary thrombosis. An investigation into the whole economics of cigarette smoking would, one would think, be well worth while for although there is a tremendous revenue obtained from the sale of cigarettes, there is also a vast amount of waste, both financial and physical, which must more than counteract the benefits to the Exchequer.

The year 1967 was a year in which the incidence of measles was relatively high and eighty-one cases were reported. Whether or not this is an accurate record of the incidence of the disease is very hard to tell, for it is well known that many Doctors do not send in their Notification Certificates, except in those infectious diseases which are regarded as of serious significance. However, one hopes that when the new measles vaccine becomes more universally used, that measles will, like poliomyelitis, smallpox, diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, typhoid and tuberculosis, appear only as a rarity.

The facts regarding the low occurrence of infectious diseases indicates the success of the campaign undertaken by the Public Health Service Medical Officers and Family Doctors in the prevention of these diseases by means of vaccination and inoculation. There is no fame or glamour in having seen that thousands of doses of poliomyelitis are given. The results however are far more tangible than those obtained by the sensational procedures in the realms of medicine and surgery of which one reads.

The duties of a District Medical Officer of Health are concerned with environmental health and it follows that with the low incidence of infectious diseases that the scope of his duties have decreased. In addition there has, over the years, been a gradual improvement both in the standards and also in the responsibility taken by the Public Health Inspectors. This factor too has resulted in a decrease in the call on the services of a Medical Officer of Health. It is only about twenty-five years ago that each of the District Councils had its own Medical Officer of Health on a full or part time basis. My illustrious predecessor, Dr. H. B. Mapleton, was employed full time by the Newton Abbot Rural and Urban District Councils and I am sure that he was fully occupied. Conditions over the years have improved and at the present time only about half of my time is devoted to the five District Councils with whom I am associated.

I should like to thank, once again, the Chairman, Councillors and all members of the staff for the help and co-operation received.



Medical Officer of Health

September, 1968

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
=====

CHAIRMAN

Councillor T.W.Gracey

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor N.E.Stacy, J.P.

and

COUNCILLORS

Mrs. D.M.Arscott
Rev. J.T.Charnley
A.Davies - retired 23.5.67.
Mrs. H.Fox - retired 23.5.67.
S.W.Kendall

from 24.5.67 -
T.H.Hamlyn
J.H.Morrish

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF
=====

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

H.M.Davies, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
6/8 Sherborne Road,
Newton Abbot.

Tel: Newton Abbot 3991

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR (Also Surveyor)

R.H.West, A.R.S.H.,
Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Ashburton.

Tel: Ashburton 383

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

R.Whitehead, M.A.P.H.I.,
Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Ashburton.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	6,775
Population mid 1967	3,050
Population 1961 Census	2,715
Rateable Value as at the 1st January, 1967	£85,158
Rateable Value as at the 31st December, 1967	£87,068
Product of 1d. rate (1st April, 1967)	£330

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	26	19	45
Illegitimate	2	2	4
	<u>28</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>49</u>
			<u>=</u>

Crude Live Birth rate per 1000 total population	16.06
Corrected Live Birth rate per 1000 total population	20.39
Crude Live Birth rate per 1000 total population - Administrative County of Devon	13.8
Corrected Live Birth rate per 1000 total population - Administrative County of Devon	17.2
Live Birth rate per 1000 total population - England and Wales	17.2
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births)	8.16

Stillbirths

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	-	2	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Stillbirth rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths	39.21
Stillbirth rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths - Administrative County of Devon	12.8
Corresponding rate for England and Wales	14.8

Deaths

The average age at death from all causes was found to be 72.76 years. The average age of all male deaths was 72.33 years and for female deaths 73.06 years.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	19	32	51
Crude Death rate per 1000 total population			16.72
Corrected Death rate per 1000 total population			10.03
Crude Death rate per 1000 total population - Administrative County of Devon			14.4
Corrected Death rate per 1000 total population - Administrative County of Devon			9.8
Death rate per 1000 total population - England and Wales			11.2

Infant Mortality

(Deaths of Infants under one year)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Infant Mortality rate per 1000 related live births			20.40
Infant Mortality rate per 1000 related live births - Administrative County of Devon			11.32
Corresponding rate for England and Wales			18.3

Neonatal Mortality

(Deaths of Infants under four weeks)

No deaths of Infants under four weeks occurred in Ashburton during 1967.

Neonatal Mortality rate per 1000 related live births - Administrative County of Devon	7.28
Corresponding rate for England and Wales	12.5

Perinatal Mortality

(Stillbirths and Deaths of Infants under one week)

No deaths of Infants under one week occurred in Ashburton during 1967.

Perinatal Mortality rate per 1000 live and stillbirths - Administrative County of Devon	18.63
Corresponding rate for England and Wales	25.4

Maternal Mortality

No maternal deaths occurred in Ashburton during 1967.

No maternal deaths occurred within the Administrative County of Devon.

AGE AT DEATH

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Infants under four weeks	-	-
Four weeks and under one year	-	1
1 - 4	-	-
5 - 14	-	1
15 - 24	-	-
25 - 34	-	-
35 - 44	-	-
45 - 54	1	-
55 - 64	2	2
65 - 74	10	12
75 and over	6	16
	<u>19</u>	<u>32</u>

Total: 51

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	3	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	3	1
Diabetes	-	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	3	6
Coronary Disease, Angina	3	7
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	2
Other Heart Disease	1	2
Other Circulatory Disease	1	1
Bronchitis	2	1
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	3	5
All Other Accidents	-	1
	<u>19</u>	<u>32</u>

Total: 51

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Measles	38	43	81

TUBERCULOSIS

One case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis was notified during 1967.

No cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

In no case was Official action, under Section 47 of the National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951, necessary during 1967.

ASHBURTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Registrations and General Inspections

TABLE A

Period Covered: 1st January - 31st December, 1967

Class of Premises	No. of Premises Registered During the Year	No. of Registered Premises at End of Year	No. of Registered Premises receiving a General Inspection During the Year
Offices	2	10	6
Retail Shops	-	24	22
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	-	-
Catering Establishments open to the Public, Canteens	-	5	3
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-
TOTALS:	2	39	31

Number of Visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises

TABLE B

Analysis of Recorded Particulars of Persons Employed
in Registered Premises by Workplace

TABLE C

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	41
Retail Shops	65
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	-
Catering Establishments Open to the Public	19
Canteens	-
Fuel Storage Depots	-
TOTAL:	125

Total Males: 56

Total Females: 69

CARCASES INSPECTED - 1967

	CATTLE	CALVES	SHEEP	PIGS	TOTALS
No. KILLED	154	4	890	285	1,333
No. INSPECTED	154	4	890	285	1,333
<u>All Diseases other than Tuberculosis</u>	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Whole carcass condemned					
(b) Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	34	-	10	4	48
% of Animals inspected affected by disease other than Tuberculosis	22.08	-	1.12	1.40	3.61
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
(a) Whole carcass condemned	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	6	6
% of Animals inspected affected by Tuberculosis	-	-	-	2.04	0.45
Cysticercus Bovis	1	-	-	-	1

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act, 1961

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	15	10	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Excluding out-workers' premises)	3	2	-	-
Total:	18	12	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found (continued)

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-	-
Total:	4	3	-	-	-

